This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents will not correct images, please do not report the images to the Image Problem Mailbox.

Japanese Kokai Patent Application No. Sho 59[1984]-189103

Agent:

Takeo Yamaguchi

[There are no amendments to this patent.]

Claims

- 1. Water absorbents, prepared by mixing 100 parts by weight of carboxyl group-containing water-absorbing resin powders with 0.001-10 parts by weight of at least one crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of polyglycidyl ethers, polyaziridines, polyamines, and polyisocyanates, and if necessary heat treatment is carried out, thereby the water-absorbing resin powders and the crosslinking agents are reacted for crosslinking the molecular chains which are at least in the vicinity of the surface of the water-absorbing resin powders.
- 2. In the water absorbents described in Claim 1, the carboxyl group-containing water-absorbing resins are polymers of acrylic acid alkali metal salts produced by polymerization of aqueous solutions containing at least 20 wt% of 100 parts by weight of acrylic acid salt monomer composed of 1-50 mol% acrylic acid and 50-99 mol% acrylic acid alkali metal salt and 0-5 parts by weight crosslinkable monomer for forming gel-like hydrated polymers, followed by drying by heating.
- 3. In the water absorbents described in Claim 1, the water-absorbing resin powder contains at least 70 wt% of the powder which can pass through a 60-mesh sieve.

Detailed explanation of the invention

The present invention pertains to water absorbents. More precisely it pertains to water absorbents which can absorb a large amount of aqueous substances when in contact with said aqueous substances and they have a large water retentivity even under pressurization.

Using a water-absorbing resin as a constituent material for sanitary napkins, paper diapers, or other sanitary materials for absorbing body liquids has been attempted.

Known examples of such water-absorbing resins include starch-acrylonitrile graft copolymer hydrolysate, neutralization product of starch-acrylonitrile graft copolymer, vinyl acetate-acrylic acid ester copolymer saponification product, hydrolysate of acrylonitrile copolymer or acrylamide copolymer, or crosslinked products thereof, self-crosslinked polyacrylic acid sodium salt produced by reverse-phase suspension polymerization, crosslinked partly neutralized polyacrylic acid, etc.

However, compared with cotton-like pulp and paper, the water absorption rate of these conventional water-absorbing resins is slow, which is a severe drawback. Therefore, for example, when paper diapers and conventional water-absorbing resins were combined and used,

JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE (JP) PATENT JOURNAL (A)

KOKAI PATENT APPLICATION NO. SHO 59[1984]-189103

Int. Cl. ³ :	C 08 F 8/14 A 61 L 15/00 C 08 F 8/30 20/06		
Sequence Nos. for Office Use:	7308-4J 6779-4C 7308-4J		
Filing No.:	Sho 58[1983]-62264		
Filing Date:	April 11, 1983		
Publication Date:	October 26, 1984		
No. of Inventions:	1(Total of 6 pages)		
Examination Request:	Not filed		

WATER ABSORBENTS

Inventor:	10-4, 2-Chome, Kita-machi, Shinsenri Toyonaka-shi		
	Tadao Shimomura 9-11, 2-Chome, Nishi-machi, Shinsenri Toyonaka-shi		

Yoshio Irie 10-704, 12 Ban, Takaza-cho Nishinomiya-shi

Applicant: Nippon Shokubai Kagaku Kogyo Co., Ltd. 1,5-Chome, Koraibashi,

Higashi-ku Osaka-shi

for a while after urination, because the absorptivity of the paper diaper is small and the urine contacts the skin making the skin feel uncomfortable, it takes a long time to produce a dry feeling. Therefore various trials were carried out to increase the absorption rate.

For example, to increase the surface area, the particle size of the water-absorbing resins was reduced; the particles of the water-absorbing resins were made into granular or scaly shapes. However, generally speaking, when the particle size of the water-absorbing resins is reduced, when the resins particles contact urine, the resin particles become lumpy, so the water absorption rate becomes slow. When the water-absorbing resins are molded into granules, the granules themselves become undissolved lumps so that absorption rate becomes slow. When the water-absorbing resins are made into a scaly shape, the absorption rate can be improved considerably but it is still insufficient, and moreover there is a limitation to the process of producing a scaly shape, so the equilibrium water-absorptivity is small, which is a drawback. Furthermore, when the water-absorbing resins are made into a scaly shape, the bulkiness of the water-absorbing resins increases, so large equipment is necessary for their transportation and storage; thus, it is not economical.

The present inventors carried out an extensive study to solve the above-mentioned problems of conventional water-absorbing resins, and as a result it was found that the water absorbents obtained by mixing water-absorbing resin powders with at least one crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of poyglycidyl ethers, polyaziridines, polyamines, and polyisocyanates, and if necessary, carrying out heat treatment, could solve the problems of conventional water-absorbing resins, thereby they completed the present invention.

Thus, the object of the present invention is to provide water absorbents with high absorption rates and large equilibrium water absorption amounts.

Namely, the water absorbents of the present invention can be prepared by mixing 100 parts by weight of carboxyl group-containing water-absorbing resin powders with 0.001-10 parts by weight of at least one crosslinking agent selected from the group consisting of polyglycidyl ethers, polyaziridines, polyamines, and polyisocyanates, and if necessary carrying out heat treatment, thereby the water-absorbing resin powders react with the crosslinking agents for crosslinking the molecular chains which are at least in the vicinity of the surface of the water-absorbing resin powders.

It is necessary that the water-absorbing resins used in the present invention contain carboxyl groups. Examples of such water-absorbing resins which can be used include starch-acrylonitrile graft copolymer hydrolysate, partly neutralized starch-acrylonitrile graft copolymer, saponified vinyl acetate-acrylic acid ester copolymer, hydrolysate of acrylonitrile copolymer or acrylamide copolymer, or crosslinked products thereof, partly neutralized polyacrylic acid, at least one crosslinked partly neutralized polyacrylic acid, etc., and it is

preferable to have crosslinked structures; however, those having no crosslinked structures also can be used.

Among such water-absorbing resins, examples of those which are preferable to be used in the present invention include ①-⑤ below.

- ①: Acrylic acid alkali metal salt polymers produced by polymerization of aqueous solutions containing at least 20 wt% of 100 parts by weight acrylic acid salt monomer composed of 1-50 mol% acrylic acid and 50-99 mol% acrylic acid alkali metal salt and 0-5 parts by weight crosslinkable monomer for forming gel-like hydrated polymers, followed by drying by heating.
- ②: Water-absorbing resins, produced by suspension polymerization of aqueous acrylic acid and/or acrylic acid alkali metal salt solutions containing water-soluble radical polymerization initiators and, if necessary, crosslinkable monomers in the presence of HLB 3-12 surfactants in alicyclic and/or aliphatic hydrocarbon solvents.
- ③: Saponified copolymers of vinyl esters and ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acids or their derivatives.
- ①: Water-absorbing resins, produced by polymerization of starch and/or cellulose, carboxyl group-containing monomers or monomers which can produce carboxyl groups by hydrolysis, and when necessary, crosslinkable monomers in aqueous media, followed by hydrolysis when it is necessary.
- \odot : Water-absorbing resins, produced by reacting alkaline substances with maleic anhydride copolymers composed of maleic anhydride and at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of α -olefin and vinyl compounds, and the thus produced reaction products are reacted with polyepoxy compounds if necessary.

There is no limitation to the amount of carboxyl groups contained in the water-absorbing resins; however, it is preferable that there be at least 0.01 Eq of carboxyl groups based on 100 g water-absorbing resin. As an example, for partly neutralized polyacrylic acid, the proportion of the non-neutralized part is preferably 1-50 mol%.

The forms of water-absorbing resin powders used in the present invention include the spherical form of the water-absorbing resins obtained from reverse-phase suspension polymerization, scaly water-absorbing resins obtained from drum drying, and amorphous form obtained by pulverizing the water-absorbing resin lumps. From the point of view of absorption rate, the size of the particles of the water-absorbing resin powders is preferably small, and it is preferable that at least 70 wt% of water-absorbing resin powders pass through a 60-mesh sieve. If the amount of water-absorbing resin powders which pass through a 60-mesh sieve is less than 70 wt%, there tends to be a smaller absorption rate. The crosslinking agents used in the present invention contain at least two functional groups (based on one molecule) which can react with

carboxyl groups, and at least one compound selected from the group consisting of polyglycidyl ethers, polyaziridines, polyamines, and polyisocyanates can be used.

Examples of polyglycidyl ethers include ethylene glycol diglycidyl ether, glycerol diglycidyl ether, etc.

Examples of polyaziridines include "Chemitite PZ-33" (2,2-bis(hydroxymethyl)butanol tris[3-(1-aziridinyl)propionate), "Chemitite HZ-22" (1,6-hexamethylenediethyleneurea), and "Chemitite DZ-22" (diphenylmethanebis(4,4'-N,N'-diethyleneurea) (all of the above are products of Nippon Shokubai Kagaku Kogyo Co., Ltd.). Examples of polyamines include ethylenediamine, diethylenetriamine, triethylenetetramine, tetraethylenepentamine, pentaethylenehexamine, polyethyleneimine, etc. Examples of polyisocyanates include 2,4-tolylene diisocyanate, hexamethylene diisocyanate, etc.

At least two types of these compounds may be used. The amount of crosslinking agent to be used in the present invention depends on the types of water absorbents, however, it is 0.001-10 parts by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the water-absorbing resins. When it is greater than 10 parts by weight, the crosslinking density is too high and the water absorption ratio becomes small. On the contrary, if it is less than 0.001 part by weight, the effect of adding a crosslinking agent cannot be obtained.

In the present invention, the mixing of water-absorbing resin powder and a crosslinking agent can be carried out using a conventional mixer such as a V-type mixer, a ribbon-type mixer, a screw-type mixer, a rotary disk-type mixer, a gas stream-type mixer, etc.

As in the case of using aziridine compounds as crosslinking agents, the reaction of a crosslinking agent with the carboxyl group of the water-absorbing resin powder can occur even at room temperature; however for promoting the reaction, usually it is preferable to carry out heat treatment. The temperature of the heat treatment depends on the crosslinking agents; however, when the material used is polyglycidyl ether, the temperature is usually 50-300°C, preferably 90-250°C; when the material is a polyaziridine, the temperature is usually 10-300°C, preferably 20-250°C; when the material is a polyamine, the temperature is usually 90-300°C, preferably 120-250°C; and when the material is a polyisocyanate, the temperature is usually 10 300°C, preferably 20-250°C.

For the heat treatment of a mixture of water-absorbing resin powder and a crosslinking agent, a conventional dryer and a heating furnace can be used. For example, an agitated trough dryer, a rotary dryer, a disk dryer, a kneading dryer, a fluidized-bed dryer, a gas-stream dryer, an infrared dryer, etc., can be used.

At the time of mixing and heat treating, if the mixer can be heated, then the mixer can be used for simultaneous mixing and heating. If the heat treatment machine can be stirred, then the heat treatment machine can be used for simultaneous mixing and heating.

The thus prepared water absorbents of the present invention have superior properties than conventional water-absorbing resins. Namely, the water absorbents of the present invention can be prepared by mixing and reacting water-absorbing resins with crosslinking agents, which is a simple industrial process. Compared with conventional water-absorbing resins, they are less apt to form lumps of the resins and they have a large absorption rate. Moreover, cakes of moisture-absorbed powders did not form easily, which was an unexpected advantage.

The water absorbents of the present invention can be used for coagulation of sludges, prevention of dew condensation on building materials, water-retaining agents for agriculture and horticulture, or drying agents in addition to water absorbents in such products as paper diapers, sanitary napkins, etc.

In the following, application examples will be used to explain the present invention in more detail; however, the present invention is not limited to these application examples, "%" means "wt%" and parts means "parts by weight" unless otherwise specified.

Application Example 1

A gel-like hydrated polymer was prepared by stationary polymerization of 4000 parts of 43% aqueous acrylic acid salt monomer solution comprising 74.95 mol% sodium acrylate, 25 mol% acrylic acid and 0.05 mol% trimethylolpropane triacrylate in the presence of 0.6 part ammonium persulfate, and 0.2 part sodium hydrogen sulfite in a nitrogen gas stream at 55-80°C. After the gel-like hydrated polymer was dried in a hot air dryer at 180°C, it was pulverized by a vibration-type pulverizer, and the powder (powder (A)) which passed through a 60-mesh sieve was collected.

After 0.5 part ethylene glycol diglycidyl ether was mixed with 100 parts powder (A) using a ribbon mixer, the temperature of the heating medium in the jacket of the ribbon mixer was raised to 180°C to carry out heat treatment for 30 min. The temperature of the material when the heat treatment was finished was 171°C.

0.2 g of the thus prepared water absorbent (1) was put uniformly in a tea bag-like nonwoven bag (40 mm x 150 mm); then, the bag was immersed in a 0.9% aqueous sodium chloride solution, and the weight after a 30-sec immersion and after 10-min immersion was measured. The weight of the bag only (containing nothing) after the immersion was the blank weight; then, the water absorption ratio of the water absorbent was calculated using the following formula.

Absorption ratio = (weight after absorption (g) – blank weight (g))/weight of the powder (g)

Whether or not lumps of the water absorbent were formed was determined by the state of the water absorbent when a small amount of the water absorbent was dropped on a sieve of water-wetted paper.

The results are shown in Table 1. We can see that compared with powder (A), the water absorbent (1) did not form lumps easily and moreover, the absorption rate was improved remarkably.

Application Example 2

100 parts of the powder (A) prepared in Application Example 1 were mixed with 1 part triethylenetetramine using a knead. Then the mixture was fed and discharged continuously to a paddle dryer (Nara Kikai Seisakusho) for carrying out heat treatment. At this point, the paddle dryer was heated with 17 kg/cm² steam and the average residence time was 20 min. The temperature of the material at the discharge port was 190°C.

The thus prepared water absorbents (2) were evaluated as in Application Example 1. The results are shown in Table 1.

Application Example 3

100 parts of the powder (A) prepared in Application Example 1 were mixed with 0.5 part "Chemitite PZ-33" (Nippon Shokubai Kagaku Kogyo Co., Ltd., 2,2,-bis(hydroxymethyl)butanol tris(3-(1-aziridinyl)propionate) using a ribbon mixer, and then they reacted while standing at room temperature (20-30°C) for 3 days to give a water absorbent (3).

The thus prepared water absorbent (3) was evaluated as in Application Example 1. The results are shown in Table 1.

Application Example 4

100 parts of the powder (A) prepared in Application Example 1 were mixed with 1 part of 2,4-tolylene diisocyanate using a Nauta mixer, and then the mixture was heat-treated with a disk-type dryer. The temperature of the material at the time of discharge was 100°C.

The thus prepared water absorbent (4) was evaluated as in Application Example 1. The results are shown in Table 1.

Application Example 5

50 parts cornstarch, 200 parts water, and 1000 parts methanol were fed into a reactor equipped with a stirrer, a nitrogen gas inlet tube, and a thermometer. Then the mixture in the reactor was stirred at 50°C for one hour under a nitrogen gas stream and it was cooled to 30°C. Then, 25 parts acrylic acid, 75 parts sodium acrylate, 0.5 part methylenebis acrylamide, 0.1 part

ammonium persulfate as a polymerization catalyst, and 0.1 part sodium hydrogen sulfite as a promoter were added and were reacted at 60°C for 4 h to give a white suspension.

The powder which was obtained by filtering the white suspension was washed with a water-methanol mixture (weight ratio of water to methanol was 2:10); then it was dried under reduced pressure at 60°C for 3 h, pulverized, and then it was screened with a 60-mesh sieve to obtain particles which passed through the 60-mesh sieve to give powder B. Then 1 part ethylene glycol diglycidyl ether was added to 100 parts of the powder (B) and mixed with a rotary disk-type mixer. The thus obtained mixture was heat-treated with hot air at 170°C for 10 minutes in a fluidized-bed dryer to give a water absorbent (5). The temperature of the material when the material was removed was 165°C. The thus prepared water absorbent (5) was evaluated as in Application Example 1. The results are shown in Table 1.

Application Example 6

0.5 part benzoyl peroxide as a polymerization initiator was added to a mixture of 60 parts vinyl acetate and 40 parts methyl acrylate, then the resulting mixture was dispersed in 300 parts water containing 3 parts of partly saponified polyvinyl alcohol and 10 parts sodium chloride, and after suspension polymerization at 65°C for 6 h, it was filtered and dried to produce a copolymer. The thus obtained copolymer was saponified, washed, and dried, and then it was pulverized. Then it was classified and particles which passed through a 60-mesh sieve were collected to give powder (C).

One part of triethylenetetramine was added to 100 parts of the powder (C); then, the resulting mixture was put in a ribbon mixer which was heated to 230°C by the heat medium in the jacket, and by mixing for 15 min, thereby mixing and heat treatment were carried out to give a water absorbent (6). The temperature of the material when it was removed from the ribbon mixer was 185°C. The thus prepared water absorbent (6) was evaluated as in Application Example 1. The results are shown in Table 1.

Application Example 7

300 parts n-hexane were put in a reactor, then 0.7 part sorbitan monostearate was dissolved in it. Then an aqueous monomer solution prepared by dissolving 30 parts acrylic acid in 40 parts water followed by neutralizing with 12.5 parts sodium hydroxide and then dissolving 0.05 parts potassium persulfate was added to the n-hexane solution and dispersed and polymerized at 65°C for 5 h under a nitrogen gas stream. After the finish of the polymerization, it [the mixture] was dried under reduced pressure to give a powder (D).

Then 1 part glycerol diglycidyl ether was added to 100 parts of the powder (D) and a V-type mixer was used for mixing. The thus obtained mixture was lightly mounted on a conveyer

belt and passed through a infrared dryer to carry out heat treatment to give a water absorbent (7). The average heating time was 4 min and the temperature of the material at the discharge port was 190°C.

The thus prepared water absorbent (7) was evaluated as in Application Example 1. The results are shown in Table 1.

Application Example 8

154 parts isobutylene-maleic anhydride copolymer, 64 parts sodium hydroxide, and 398 parts water were mixed, followed by stirring at 90°C for 2 h to prepare a homogeneous aqueous solution. Then 2.5 parts glycerol diglycidyl ether were added to the aqueous solution and after mixing thoroughly, the mixture was flowed into a vat, and a crosslinking reaction was carried out in a hot air dryer at 110°C. After drying, it was pulverized and classified, and particles which passed through a 60-mesh sieve were collected (powder E).

0.5 part Chemitite PZ-33 were mixed with 100 parts of the powder (E) by a ribbon mixer; then, the mixture was spread on a stainless steel dish until it was 5 mm thick; then, it was allowed to stand in a constant-temperature chamber at 50°C for one day to produce a water absorbent (8).

The thus prepared water absorbent (8) was evaluated as in Application Example 1. The results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

//insert//

Key: 1 Absorption ratio

2 After 30 sec

3 After 10 min

- Whether or not lumps were formed (Note)
- 5 Application Example
- 6 Powder (A)
- 7 Water absorbent
- 8 Powder (B)
- 9 Powder (C)
- 10 Powder (D)
- 11 Powder (E)
- Notes: 0: No lumps were formed

X: Lumps were formed.

From the results shown in Table 1, it is clear that the water absorbents of the present invention do not form lumps and moreover they have a high absorption rate.

(9) 日本国特許庁 (JP)

切特許出願公開

@公開特許公報(A)

昭59—189103

MInt. Cl.3

C 08 F 8/14

A 61 L 15/00 C 08 F 8/30 20/06 識別記号

广内整理番号 7308-4 J 6779-4C 7308-4 J 63公開 昭和59年(1984)10月26日

発明の数 審査請求 未請求

(全 6 頁)

69吸水剤

20特

昭58--62264

昭58(1983) 4月11日 22出 願

梅本恒雄 明 者 仍発

豊中市新千里北町2丁目10番4

下村忠生 明 者 四発

費中市新千里西町2丁目9番11 뮺

明 者 入江好夫 の発

西宫市高座町12番10-704号

日本触媒化学工業株式会社 包出

大阪市東区高麗橋5丁目1番地.

人 山口剛男 の代 理

1. 発明の名称 **吸水剂**

特許財象の範囲

- 1. カルポキシル基を有する吸水性樹脂粉末に、 多価グリシジルエーテル化合物、多価アジリ ジン化合物。多価アミン化合物および多価イ ソシアネート化合物からなる群から選ばれた 1 敬又は 2 憩以上の架積剤を、吸水性樹脂粉 末 100 低量 船 に 対 し て 架 機 剤 を 0.001~10 重量部の割合で、混合し、必要により無処理を 行なうことにより、吸水性樹脂粉末と栗樹剤 とを反応させて酸吸水性樹脂粉末の少なくと も表面近傍の分子鰕を楽儀させることにより 得られた吸水剤。
- 2. カルボキシル基を有する吸水性樹脂が、ア クリル府1~50 モルメとアクリル世アルカ "り金属坂50~89モルダとからなるアクリ ル酸塩系単規体100重量部と架器性単元体。 0~5 恵最部との単量体成分を20 重量系以

トの油度で水溶液共宜合してゲル状含水重合 体とし、次いで加熱乾燥して得られたアクリ ル酸アルカリ金製塩系重合体である特許請求 の範囲創1項配製の吸水剤。

- 3. 吸水性部脂粉末が、50メンシュを通過す るものの割合が70重量を以上あるものであ る特許前求の範囲第1項配収の吸水剤。
- 発明の評組な説明

本発明は吸水剤に関するものである。更に群し くは、水性物質と接した時に高度に水性物質を吸 収し、しかも加圧下に於いても保水性の大きい吸 水剤に関するものである。

従来、生理的、紙おむつあるいはその他の体放 を吸収する新生材料に、一構成材料として吸水性 樹脂を用いる試みがなされている。

この様な吸水性質階としては、たとえば、デン プンーアクリロニトリルグラフト取合体の加水分 解物、デンプン-アクリル酸グラフト重合体の中 和物、酢酸ビニル・アクリル酸エステル共宜合体 のケン化物。アクリロニトリル共重合体もしくは アクリルアミド共武合体の加水分解物、またはこれらの架模体、逆相懸濁重合によつて得られた自己架構型ポリアクリル酸ナトリウム, ポリアクリル酸の分中和物架網体等が知られている。

ところが、これら従来の吸水性樹脂はいずれも 続状ペルブや紙に比較して、吸収速度が遅いとい う致命的な欠陥を有している。そのために、たと えば紙おむつに従来の吸水性樹脂を超み込んだ場合、尿が排泄されたのちしばらくは低おむつの吸 収量が少ないた状態に尿がふれて不快感があり、 サラッと乾いた状態になるのに時間を速くするた のが現状である。そこで、飲収速度を速くするた めに種々の試みがなされている。

合物,多価アジリジン化合物,多価アミン化合物 および多価イソシアネート化合物からなる群から 遊ばれた 1 號又は 2 類以上の架構剤を、吸水性樹 脂粉末 1 0 0 取量 無に対して架備剤を 0.0 0 1 ~ 10 取量 部の刺合で混合し、必要により加熱処理を行 なうことにより、吸水性樹脂粉末と架構剤とを反 応させて凝吸水性樹脂粉末の少なくとも要面近傍 の分子鎖を架構させることにより得られるもので ある。

て吸収速度が遅くなる現象がみられる。また、 吸水性物質をリン片状にすると、 吸収速度はかなり 改替されるがなお不十分であり、 しかもリン片状 にするために 工程面からの 割約があるので、 平衡 吸水燃が小さいという欠点がある。さらに、リン片状では必然的にかさ高くなるので、 運搬 , 貯蔵に大きな設備が必要となり、 経済的でない。

本発明者らは、従来知られている吸水性樹脂の有している上記の如き問題を解決すべく殺意研究を重ねた結果、吸水性樹脂粉末に多価グリシジルエーテル化合物・多価アジリジン化合物・多価アジリジン化合物・多価アジリジン化合物・多価でよっても動および多価イソシアネート化合物からならずから選ばれた1種又は2種以上の架構剤を充る計から選ばれた1種又は2種以上の架構剤が使来の吸水性樹脂の有する問題点を解決することを見出して本発明を完成するに至った。

従つて、本発明の目的は、吸収速度が大きく、 平衡吸水量も大きな吸水剤を提供することにある。 即ち、本発明の吸水剤はカルボキシル基を有す る吸水性樹脂粉末に、多価グリンジルエーテル化

が選出しいが、架機構造を有していないものでも 用いることができる。

このような吸水性樹脂の中で、本発明で好ましいものとしては、例えば次の新の~⑤項の各項に示した吸水性樹脂を挙げることができる。

- ① アクリル酸 1 ~ 5 0 モル 5 とアクリル酸アルカリ金属塩 5 0 ~ 9 8 モル 5 とからなるアクリル酸塩系単量体 1 0 0 重量部と架構性単量体 0 ~ 5 重量部との単量体成分を 2 0 重量 5 以上の濃度で水溶液共重合してゲル状含水重合体とし、次いで加熱乾燥して得られたアクリル酸アルカリ金属塩系重合体。
- ② 野球族および/または脂肪族炭化水素溶媒中 に水溶性ラジカル重合調始剤および必要により 架構性単量体を含有するアクリル酸および/ま たはアクリル酸アルカリ金風塩の水溶液をHLB 3~12の界面活性剤の存在下に分散懸濁重合 させて得た吸水性樹脂。
- ③ ピニルエステルとエチレン系不飽和カルポン 機里たはその誘導体との共重合体のケン化物。

- ③ デンプンおよび/またはセルロース,カルボキャル業を有するかまたは加水分解によりカルボキャル芸を生成する単層体、および必要により架構性単層体を、水性媒体中で取合させ、必要によりさらに加水分解を行うことにより符られた吸水性樹脂。
- αーオレフィンおよびビニル化合物からなる おより選ばれた少なくとも1 限以上の単量体と 級水マレイン酸とからなる紙水マレイン酸系共 煮合体にアルカリ性物質を反応させ、必要によ り得られた反応生成物に多価エポキシ化合物を 反応させて得られた吸水性樹脂。

吸水性樹脂の有するカルボキシル茶の量については、カルボキシル茶が存在すれば特に制限はないが、吸水性樹脂1009当りカルボ キシル 基が0.01当最以上存在する ことが 好ま しい。ポリアクリル酸部分中和物を例にとれば、未中和部分の割合が1~50モルダであることが好ましい。

本発明において用いられる吸水性機脂粉末の形状は、例えば逆相照満重合で得られる球状、ドラ

6 - ヘキサメチレンジエチレンウレア), * ケミタイト DZ-22 *(ジフェニルメタン・ビス・4, 4'-N, N'-ジェチレンウレア)(以上いずれも日本触媒化学工業(株)級)等がある。多価アミン化合物としては、エチレンジアミン、ジエチレントリアミン、トリエチレンテトラミン、テトラエチレンペンタミン、ペンタエチレンヘキサミン、ボリエチレンイミン等がある。多価イソシアネート化合物としては、2,4~トリレンジイソシアネートのキャメチレンジイソシアネート等がある。

そして、これらの化合物の1 税または2 額以上を用いることができる。本発明に用いられる契信剤の使用量は、吸水剤の種類によつて異なるが、吸水性制限100重量部に対して、0.001~10 重量部の比率の範囲である。10重量部を薪える量では、架構密度が高くなりすぎ、吸水倍率が小さくなる。逆に0.001重量部末潤の少ない量では、架備制を使用した効果がみられない。

本苑明において、吸水性樹脂粉末と架構剤との

多質グリンジルエーテル化合物としては、エチレングリコールジグリンジルエーテル、グリセリングリシジルエーテル等がある。

多価アジリジン化合物としては、** ケミタイト PZ-33 **(2,2-ビスヒドロキシメチルブタ ノール・トリス[3-(1-アジリジニル)プロ ピオネート]),** ケミタイトHZ-22 **(1

混合には、避常の混合機を用いることができる。 例えば、V週混合機、リポン型混合機、スクリユー類混合機、回転円板類混合機、気流型混合機等 である。

吸水性樹脂粉末のカルボキャル茶と架機剤との 反応は、アジリジン化合物を架機剤として用いる 場合のように、窓温でも起る場合もあるが、反応 を促進するためには週常加熱処理を行う事が好ま しい。熱処理温度は、架積剤によつて異なるが、 材料温度が、多質グリシジルエーテル化合物の場合は通常50~800℃、好ましくは90~250℃、 多価アジリジン化合物の場合は通常10~300℃、 好ましくは20~250℃、多価アミン化合物の場合は通常90~300℃、 介き価イソシアネート化合物の場合は通常10~ 300℃好ましくは20~250℃

級水性相脳粉末と架構剤との混合物の加熱処理 には通常の乾燥機や加熱炉を用いることができる。 例えば、みぞ型かくはん乾燥機、四転乾燥機、円 盤乾燥機、 2 流乾燥 機、赤外朝乾燥捣等である。

配合及び熱処型に際して、混合物が加熱可能な ものならば混合機で混合と熱処理を問時に行なつ でもよい。また、加熱処理機が提拌可能なものな らば、加熱処理機で混合を行なうと同時に熱処理 を行なつてもよい。

本発明の政水剤は、紙おむつ、生理錦等用の既水剤として用いることができる他に、汚泥の凝固、建材の結解防止、機関芸用保水剤あるいは乾燥剤等として広い用途に用いることができる。

以下、実施例により本発明を詳細に説明するが、

このようにして得られた吸水剤(1) 0.2 9 を不納布製のティーペッグ式袋(4 0 mm×1 5 0 mm)に均一に入れ、0.9 % 秀城水に浸液し、3 0 秒後および1 0 分後の重量を測定した。ティーペッグ式袋のみの吸収度量をブランクとし、次式に従つて吸水剤の重量份率を算出した。

吸収 吸収後の重量(ガープランク(ガ) 粉体の重量(ガ

また、ママコ生成の有紙を、水で凝らせた紙の 上に少量の吸水剤をおとした時の様子を観察する ことにより行つた。

第1 表に結果を示すが、粉体 (4) に比べて吸水 剤(!)はママコが生成せず、しかも吸収過度が著し く改塑されている。

突縮例 2

実施例1で得た粉体(イ)100部とトリエチレンテトラミン1部をニーダーで混合した。この混合物をペドルドライヤー(※良機械製作所製)に連続的に供給・排出して熱処理を行なつた。この

本発明の範囲がこれらの実施例の分裂危されるものではない。尚、例中特にことわりのない区り、 メは気量系を、部は重量部をそれぞれ示すものと する。

实施例1

粉体(イ) 1 0 0 部にエチレングリコールジグリ シジルエーデル 0.6 節をリポンプレンダーで配合 後、リポンプレンダーのジャケットの機構高度を 180℃にあげて 3 0 分削熱処理を行つた。熱処理 終了時の材料温度は 171℃であつた。

時、ペドルドライヤーは1750/dの無気で加熱し、平均指針時間は80分であった。また、排出口での材料温度は190℃であった。

このようにして得た吸水剤(2)について、実施例 1 と同様に評価した。桁架を結1後に示す。

突旋码 3

実施例1で得た粉末(イ)100部に"ケミタイトPZ-33"(日本放業化学工業(株)製,2,2-ビスヒドロキシメチルブタノール・トリス[3-(1-アジリジニル)アロビオネート])0.5
部をリポンプレンダーで混合し、室温(20~30℃)で3日間放慢して反応させ、暖水剤(3)を

優水剤(3) について、実施例 1 と同様に評価した 結果を第1表に示す。

实施例 4

実施例1で得た粉体(4)100 部に2,4-トリレンジイソシアネート1 部をナウタミキサー(ホソカワミクロン(株) 限)で混合した後、円盤型能像器で熱処理を行つた。排出時の材料温度は

100でであつた。

このようにして役た吸水剤(4)について、実施例 1 と同様に評価した。結果を第 1 妻に示す。 実施例 5

トウモロコシデンブン50 部、水200 部およびメタノール1000部を提押棒、安素吹き込み管および温度酐を備え付けた反応容器に仕込み、窒素気流下50 でで1時間投押したのち30 でに冷却し、25 部のアクリル酸、75 部のアクリルを引が出し、25 部のメチレンピスアクリルアミドの重合触線として0.1 部の亜硫酸水素ナトリウムを添加し、60 で 4 時間反応せしめたところ、白色懸荷被得5 れた。

この白色照複液を計述して得られた粉末を水・メタノール混合溶液(水対メタノールは重量比で2:10)で洗浄し、60で、3時期減圧乾燥したのち粉砕し、さらに60メンシュ金網でよるい分けして60メンシュ遊過物(粉体(ロ))を存た。粉体(ロ)100 郷にエテレングリコールジグリシジ

た。取り出し時の材料温度は185℃であつた。股水剤(6)について実施例Iと同様に評価した。結果 を第1表に示す。

突 施 例 7

反応器に n - ヘキサン 8 0 0 高をとり、ソルビタンモノステアレート 0.7 高を前解した。次いでこの中にアクリル酸 8 0 部を水 4 0 部に溶解したのち 1 2 5 部のカセイソータで 中和し、更に過硫酸カリウム 0.0 5 部を溶解したモノマー水溶液を加えて分散させ、流染気流下 6 5 でに促つて 5 時間重合を行なった。重合は了漆、淡圧乾燥して粉体 (=)を得た。

粉体(=) 100部に、グリセリンジグリシツルエーテルを1 部加え、 V 選混合機により混合を行った。 厚られた混合物をベルトコンベヤーにうすくのせ、 赤外 複乾燥機中を通過させて無処理を行い、 吸水剤(7)を得た。 平均加熱時間は 4 分間で、 乾燥機出口での材料温度は 180℃であった。

吸水剂(7)について実施切1と同様に評価した。 結果を第1設に示す。 ルエーテル 1 部を加え、 四転円板型混合機により 混合し、 得られた混合物を流動層乾燥機中で 170 での熱風により 1 0 分間熱処理を行つて吸水剤(5) を得た。 取り出し時の材料温度は 1 6 5 でであつた。 吸水剤(5) について実施例 1 と同様に評価した。 結 架を第 1 表に示す。

衷版例 6

粉体 (ハ) 100部K トリエチレンテトラミン1部を加え、ジャケットを無謀で280でに加熱したリボンブレンダーに投入し、15分間混合することにより、混合および熱処理を行ない吸水剤(6)を得

爽施例8

イソプチレン・無水マレイン酸共量合体 154系、カセイソーダ 6 4 部および水 3 8 8 配を混合し、90 でで 2 時間加熱環拌して均一な水溶液を開整した。次いでこの水溶液にグリセリンジグリシジルエーテル 2 5 部を添加し、混合後バントへ流し込み、110 cの熱風乾燥器中で強緩反応をおこさしめ、乾燥を分砕、分散して 6 0 メンシュバスの粉体树を得た。

が体(*) 100 部にケミタイト P Z - 33 0.5 部をリボンブレンダーで混合し、混合物をステンレス 短皿上に厚さ 5 ミリにのせ、 5 0 での恒温室中に 1 日放置することにより吸水剤(8)を得た。

股水利(8)について実施例1と同様に評価した。 結果を第1後に示す。

		1		吸収倍率		ママラ生成
••				80秒 茯	10分後	の有無(注)
突施例 1	1	粉体	(1)	31	62	×
		极水剂	(1)	5 2	72	0.
突施例	2	吸水剤	(2)	53	71	. 0
灾施例	3	吸水剤	(8)	52	69	0
実施例	4	吸水剂	(4)	51	69 .	0
实施例 5	粉体	(¤)	25	85	×	
		吸水剤	(5)	38	42	6
爽施例	8	粉体	(^)	28	4 B	×
		吸水剤	(6)	40	49	•
实施例	7	粉体	(=)	25	38	× "
		吸水剂	(7)	44 -	55	•
夹施例	8	粉体	(本)	23	32	×
		吸水剂	(B)	40	50	0

(注) **②:**ママコができない ×:ママコができて

第1表に示した結果からも明らかなように、本 発明の吸水剤はママコにならず、且つ大きな吸収 速度を有している。